(a) whether in the context of the changed structure of global powers, government have taken various diplomatic and international measures to ensure an expansion of the United Nations Security Council to make it more representative and to reorganise it, ensuring equality of powers amongst its members; and

(b) if so, the details of the steps taken in that direction during the past four months and the results thereof?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI MADHAVSINH SOLENKI): (a) and (b) India has been stressing in the relevant UN bodies and other multilateral fora, the need for restructuring and expansion of the membership of the United Nations Security Council.

While referring to this issue in his address at the recent Security Council, the Prime Minister called for a wider representation in the Security Council to ensure its moral sanction and political effectiveness.

We also raised this issue at the NAM Methodology Committee Meeting at Cyprus last month. There was a consensus that the Security Council Membership be reviewed to make it more representative.

India's stand at Security Council Regarding Nuclear Non-Proliferation

1587. SHRI MURLIDHAR CHANDRAKANT BHANDARE:

SHRI BEKAL UTSAHI:

SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SAHU:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that while participating in U.N. Security Council's recent deleberations, he opposed a move by Britain to provide the Security Council with powers to police the issue of Nuclear non-proliferation;

(b) if so, what was the precise move made in this regard; and in what precise terms India sought to oppose the vesting of policing Nuclear non-proliferation powers with the Security Council; and

(c) what was the consensus arrived at in the Council in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI MADHAVSINH SOLANKI): (a) to (c) Although no specific proposal was put forward to arm the Security Council with powers to police the issue of nuclear non proliferation, several delegations called for a commitment by the members of the Security Council in preventing the spread of technology related to the research for or production of weapons of mass destruction which was reflected in the statement read out by the Prime Minister of Britain at the end of the Security Council Meeting.

The Prime Minister in his address called for a global approach and a universal, comprehensive and non-discriminatory non-proliferation regime to serve as the basis for a new international consensus on this issue. He emphasized that such a regime should be linked to the goal of complete/nuclear disarmament. He stressed that it was only within the framework of such a consensus, and through no other means that the Security Council could deal effectively with the threats to peace emanating from the proliferation of nuclear weapons. In this context he also clarified that the statement made by the President of the Council did not reflect India's crucial concern on this question.